REVISED

ITEM NO.8 COURT NO.9 SECTION II-A

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.8199/2022

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 12-07-2022 in BA No. 4043/2022 passed by the High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi)

RAM PRATAP VERMA @ RAM PRATAP VERMA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE THROUGH DIRECORATE OF ENFORCEMENT

Respondent(s)

Date: 01-02-2023 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.K. MAHESHWARI

For Petitioner(s)

Ms. Kamakshi S. Mehlwal, AOR

Mr. Abhik Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Sanveer Mehlwal, Adv.

Ms. Pinky Behera, Adv.

Mr. Rinku Mathur, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Kanu Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. Raghav Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Zoheb Hussain, Adv.

Mr. Madhav Sinhal, Adv.

Ms. Sairica Raju, Adv.

Ms. Tanya Aggarwal, Adv.

Ms. Ashima Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following O R D E R

1. The petitioner seeks enlargement on bail in connection with ECIR No.02/2020, arising out of ECIR No. RNSZO/02/2017 (CNR No.JHRNO1-002548-2000) for the commission of the alleged offence under Section 3 read with Section 4 of the Prevention of Money

Laundering Act, 2002, pending in the Court of the Additional Judicial Commissioner-XVIII-cum-Special Judge, PMLA, Ranchi, Jharkhand.

- 2. It is not in dispute that during the course of investigation, the prosecution did not feel necessity to put the petitioner to custodial interrogation and/or arrest him for being taken to judicial custody. After completion of investigation, the first Report was filed on 08-05-2020 before the Additional Judicial Commissioner-XVIII-cum-Special Judge, PMLA, Ranchi, Jharkhand, though further investigation is reported to be still pending. Thereafter, the petitioner surrendered on 03-11-2021 and is in custody since then.
- 3. It is also not in dispute that his co-accused (Shyam Kishore Gupta) has already been enlarged on bail by this Court.
- 4. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and keeping in view the fact that no meaningful purpose will be served by retaining the petitioner in judicial custody and the conclusion of trial is likely to take reasonable time, but without expressing any views on the merits of this case, we are inclined to enlarge the petitioner on bail.
- 5. The petitioner is, therefore, directed to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the learned Special Judge.
- 6. The petitioner shall continue to appear before the Trial Court regularly and shall not prolong the trial.
- 7. The Special Leave Petition is disposed in above terms.

(VISHAL ANAND)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

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